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Letter dated 1 November 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 30 October 1995, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Osman Ertuğ, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 55, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hüseyin E. ÇELEM
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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ANNEX

Letter dated 30 October 1995 from Mr. Osman Ertuğ
addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 13 October 1995 addressed to you by the Greek Cypriot Representative at the United Nations (A/50/667-S/1995/878) regarding a bilateral agreement signed between the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) and Turkey on legal matters.

With this communication, the Greek Cypriot side has taken its anti-Turkish propaganda campaign to a new low. I would like to remind the Greek Cypriot Representative that Turkey and the TRNC are two sovereign countries, which formally recognize each other, and, as such, any interference with this reciprocal relationship is, to say the least, unwarranted and ultra vires.

As for the Greek Cypriot side's reference to a past Security Council resolution, I wish to point out that, rather than paying lip-service to United Nations resolutions, it would be much more constructive for the Greek Cypriot side to remember that the overriding common theme in all relevant United Nations resolutions is the finding of a just and lasting solution to the Cyprus question through negotiations on an equal footing. It is precisely these negotiations that the Greek Cypriot leadership is persistently avoiding under various pretexts, hampering prospects for a viable and just settlement. In the circumstances, one wonders whether the Greek Cypriot side will ever be able to reach agreement with the Turkish Cypriot side on the basis of a bi-communal, bi-zonal federal settlement, based on the political equality of the two sides.

I wish to reiterate that with this negative mentality, its rejection of the confidence-building measures and its intensive campaign of militarization, it is the Greek Cypriot side that lacks the political will to settle the Cyprus issue through negotiations, on the basis of a bi-communal, bi-zonal federal partnership.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 55, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Osman ERTUĞ
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus